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2 January 1958

The Honorable John E. Moss
Chairman, Government Information Subcommittee
of the Committee on Government Operations
The House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I refer to your letter of 20 December 1957 in which you asked for an analysis of this Agency's efforts in gathering and disseminating information from foreign sources to the scientific community.

The procurement and exploitation of scientific literature originating in the Soviet-dominated world is, of course, of primary importance to the mission of intelligence. We have an Advisory Committee made up of the people most directly concerned with these responsibilities in the various agencies of the intelligence group to assist in assuring maximum coverage of the field. I consider the program to be one of the best coordinated in intelligence.

The Department of State Publication Procurement Officer in Moscow sees that we receive each available Soviet periodical. Last year, under this arrangement, we received over 1000 different periodicals. Of these, 325 deal with various fields of science and technology and another 75 contain occasional items of scientific interest. During the past year, 6447 books were purchased of which 50-75% fell within the fields of science and technology. Of the books and periodicals collected in Moscow, approximately 10% are unusual or even unique items which are obtained for CIA by special arrangements.

The Library of Congress publishes the Monthly List of Russian Acquisitions which is available for purchase by the public. The List contains the translated titles and translated tables of contents of all the Soviet books and periodicals collected by this Agency, the Library of Congress and approximately 18 other cooperating libraries in the United States. In effect, the List provides a record in translation of the titles of virtually all Soviet literature, including scientific and technical, received in the United States.

Translations and abstracts of the Soviet scientific literature made in CIA or by contract during the Fiscal Year 1957 totaled 32,667 pages. The estimate for the current Fiscal Year is that over 35,000 pages of translated material will be produced. These translations from unclassified Soviet

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material have in the past been turned over to the Library of Congress Translation Center, from which they are available to the U.S. scientific community upon payment of a nominal fee. The functions of the Library of Congress have recently been transferred to the John Crerar Library in Chicago which works closely with the National Science Foundation (NSF). Our translations are now transmitted through NSF to the John Crerar Library where they are available to the public. Only those few books and journals acquired by special arrangements in Moscow are not made available through the above-described mechanism.

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The general public has available to it the product of more than 95% of this effort. The balance allows for the procurement and exploitation of the materials acquired for classified purposes.

If I can be of further service to you and the Committee, please call on me.

Sincerely,

G. P. Cabell
Lieutenant General, USAF
Acting Director

Distribution:

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DAD/CR: [redacted] dr/691 (30 Dec 57)

NOTE FOR RECORD: First page only revised 3 Jan. by AD/CR, pursuant to Gen. Cabell's request.

km

EIGHTY-FIFTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

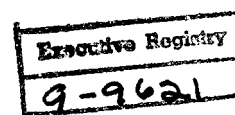
House of Representatives

GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SUBCOMMITTEE

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
ROOM 218, GEORGE WASHINGTON INN
WASHINGTON, D. C.



December 20, 1957

Mr. Allen W. Dulles
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
2430 E Street, N.W.
Washington 25, D. C.

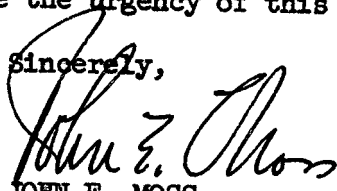
Dear Mr. Dulles:

The House Government Information Subcommittee currently is engaged in gathering data for an inquiry into the freedom of exchange and availability of scientific and technological information. In order to conduct the investigation, it is imperative to determine just what work is being done at present in this field.

We would appreciate your forwarding, as soon as possible, an analysis of your agency's efforts in gathering and disseminating information to the scientific community. The analysis should include any translation work from foreign sources done either directly or indirectly by your agency. It also should include the amount of money spent by your agency in this field.

I hope you will appreciate the urgency of this request.

Sincerely,


JOHN E. MOSS
Chairman

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MEMORANDUM FOR: THE ACTING DIRECTOR

The attached letter answers Moss' inquiry and was prepared by [redacted] in coordination with FID and has been approved by Mr. Amory. I intend to handcarry this to the staff, pointing out that we have dealt with Russian scientific literature. To attempt to deal with all types of foreign language literature would involve a tremendous effort, some of which is beyond the concern of CIA.

Recommend signature.

[redacted]

Legislative Counsel

2 January 1956
(DATE)

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